

Approved 02/12/09

Exeter Fire District

(January 08, 2009)

Call to Order

Chairman Peter Lacouture called the January meeting of the Exeter Fire District to order at 7:06pm. Present were commissioners Lacouture, Wilbur, Walker, Gallagher and Nievera. Ms. Caito, district treasurer, was also present. There were 8 members of the public in attendance.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Caito reports a beginning balance of \$314,073.74 as of Nov. 10, 2008. Activities within the accounts bring the current balance, as of Dec. 8, 2008, to \$384,183.18. Mr. Nievera has reviewed the accounts and has compared them to the bank statements and is satisfied with their accuracy. Ms. Caito further reports that the collection rate stands at 60.4% representing collections of \$602,282. Mr. Nievera moved (Mr. Gallagher second) acceptance of the report of the treasurer. The motion carried unanimously.

Previous Month's Minutes

Mr. Wilbur moved (Mr. Walker second) acceptance of the minutes of the December meeting. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Nievera will re-circulate these minutes and file them with the Secretary of State's office at his earliest convenience.

Communications

Mr. Nievera reported that all operational mail has been given to the treasurer for her action. Mr. Lacouture read a letter written in response to an inquiry made by the Exeter Town Council requesting information relative to the addition to the Exeter Rescue Corps headquarters.

Old Business

Mr. Nievera reported on the status of the delinquent accounts to date.

Mr. Lacouture presented a timeline for the upcoming annual meeting to be held in April of this year.

Mr. Nievera was asked to determine the availability of the meeting room at the library as well as at station #1 for two dates in February. Mr. Nievera will report his findings electronically to the members of the board. He will circulate the final decision and location of the hearing when it is known.

Mr. Nievera reported that he had spent the grant money from last year. He has purchased a headset for use by the collector, an “all in one” [copier, scanner, fax and printer], as well as some needed office supplies. With the small amount of funds remaining, he purchased postage to be used for the next delinquent mailing scheduled for late in February. The application for a \$1k legislative grant for 2009 has been completed and will be in the mail tonight.

Mr. Wilbur reported on his meeting with officials from the Exeter Rescue Corps concerning the addition to the rescue building. He presented and explained the project timeline from 01/06 to 03/08. Robt. Johnson (Exeter Town Council) indicated his disagreement with Mr. Wilbur’s explanation of the project. Mr. Johnson’s point is that the taxpayer did not approve a project costing \$180k. Mr. Wilbur, as well as Mr. Lacouture, explained that the taxpayer approved a budget for the Rescue Corps that included a line item of \$7,600 for a building addition. Any increase to that figure will have to be argued and defended by Rescue officials.

Mr. Lacouture said that he had received a memo from Mr. Rooney indicating that he, as chair of the ISO Ad Hoc committee, had spoken with Chief Kettelle and has a meeting set with Chief Williams (Ashaway FD) to assist the Exeter departments move forward with the ISO initiative.

New Business

Mr. Davis (EVFD#1) reported that they were encouraged by the

amount of young members showing an interest in volunteering. He also indicated that RI has received three FEMA grants of late. Station #1 has not received any grant aid but has re-applied for one of the grants.

Mr. Lacouture (EVFC#2) reported that they too have had a good deal of success recruiting younger members for their company.

Mr. Caito (Rescue Chief) reported a successful CPR training for 26 people at Station #1. He also reported that he had been contacted by Ms. Vergano concerning a CPR/First Aid course for the local PTA. This course will take place in March of '09. Kent County Memorial Hospital is in the process of starting an angioplasty program thus allowing the rescue vehicles to send EKG strips to the hospital prior to the patient arriving. This should be up and running in the very near future.

Mr. Nievera (EEDC) reported that Chief Kettelle had stepped down from his position on the dispatch corporation due to his recent promotion to captain at the NKFD. He also reported the placement of several new 800 MHz radios in fire apparatus as well as the replacement/repair of several communications dishes at tower sites.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Exeter Fire District Board of Commissioners will be held on Thursday February 12, 2009 at the Exeter Public Library located at 773 Ten Rod Rd. in Exeter. The meeting will begin at 7:00pm.

Adjournment

**Mr. Nievera moved (Mr. Gallagher second) adjournment at 7:54pm.
The motion carried unanimously.**

**Respectfully Submitted,
Bill Nievera, Clerk
Exeter Fire District**